

Appln No. 09/516,859

Amdt date July 11, 2003

Reply to Office action of April 28, 2003

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph starting on page 5, line 1 as follows:

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In one basic operation, switch 100 supports a source-learned bridging function. By way of example, a packet originates on a network device (not shown) residing on one of LAN's 121 associated with network interface 101. The packet includes a source address of the originating network device and, if the packet is a unicast packet, a destination address of the network device for which the communication is intended. Layer 2 (Data Link) addresses, such as Media Access Control (MAC) addresses are contemplated. The packet arrives at interface 101 due to the broadcast nature of the LAN. If the packet's source address is not recognized on interface 101, the packet is submitted to management controller 109 for a learning operation which results in the address being "learned" on interface 101, i.e. being added to a list of addresses active on interface 101. Thereafter, interface 101 recognizes any packets received off packet buses [~~101-109~~] 111-119 having the learned address as a destination address as being destined for a network device on one of LAN's 121, and captures such packets for forwarding.